

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 AF-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 COME-00 STR-05
AID-05 SP-02 USIA-15 NSC-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 OMB-01
CEA-01 CIAE-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-04
OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 /117 W
-----098581 150235Z /14

R 141825Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5311
INFO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 2241

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, ETRD
SUBJECT: VISIT OF EEC COMMISSIONER FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

1. THE COMMISSIONER FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, CLAUDE CHEYSSON, LEADING A 5 MAN EEC TECHNICAL TEAM, VISITED GUYANA SEPTEMBER 9-11. GUYANA'S INVOLVEMENT WITH THE EEC IS TWO FOLD: GUYANA EXPORTS SUGAR TO THE EEC (ESTIMATED 167,500 TONS THIS YEAR) UNDER THE LOME CONVENTION. ALSO THE EEC HAS IDENTIFIED FIVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN GUYANA FOR POSSIBLE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, TOTALING G\$35 MILLION DOLLARS, THESE INCLUDE THREE MAJOR PROJECTS SLATED TO RECEIVE G\$10 MILLION EACH-THE UPPER DEMERARA FORESTRY COMPLEX, DEMERARA FISH PORT COMPLEX, AND THE EAST BERBICE ROAD PROJECT. G\$3.5 MILLION IS EARMARKED FOR LOANS TO SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED FIRMS, THROUGH THE AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT BANK, AND G\$1.5 MILLION FOR TRAINING AND EDUCATION. TO DATE, ONLY THE LATTER SMALL PROJECT HAS BEGUN.

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2. CHEYSSON'S ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOCUSSED ON SUGAR. HE DUBBED THE STATE OF THE WORLD SUGAR MARKET AS "SCANDALOUS." THE WORLD SUGAR PRICE TODAY (G\$460 A TON) IS BELOW THE COST OF PRODUCTION IN GUYANA AND THE REST OF THE CARIBBEAN. DESCRIBING SITUATION AS VERY SERIOUS, CHEYSSON NOTED THAT THE EEC'S CURRENT PRICE WAS DOUBLE THAT OF THE WORLD MARKET AND THIS GAVE PARTIAL PROTECTION BUT HE CONCEDED

THAT THE SITUATION WAS STILL UNSATISFACTORY.

3. FOLLOWING CALLS ON PRESIDENT CHUNG, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATIVES MINISTER, DESMOND HOYTE, ACTING CARICOM SECRETARY GENERAL, JOE TYNDALL, AND OTHER MEETINGS WITH OFFICIALS CONNECTED WITH PROJECTS IDENTIFIED FOR EEC ASSISTANCE, CHEYSSON MET FOR TWO HOURS ON SEPTEMBER 11 WITH THE PRIME MINISTER. THEIR TALKS CENTERED ON WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES, INCLUDING GUYANA-EEC RELATIONS, SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER.

4. CHEYSSON EMERGED FROM THE MEETING WITH HIGH PRAISE FOR P.M. BURNHAM. NOTING THAT THERE WERE NO PROBLEMS OUTSTANDING AT THIS TIME BETWEEN GUYANA AND THE EEC, CHEYSSON SAID THAT WHAT WAS MOST IMPORTANT FOR HIM WAS THE KIND OF GUIDANCE AND ENLIGHTENING WHICH HE RECEIVED FROM A MAN OF THE EXPERIENCE AND AUTHORITY OF BURNHAM. GUYANA, CHEYSSON SAID, HAS A VERY CLEAR FOREIGN POLICY THAT IS FELT IN THE LOME GROUP, AND EUROPEANS WELCOME THE FACT THAT ONE OF THEIR PARTNERS HAS SUCH A CLEAR LINE OF NON-ALIGNMENT, INDEPENDENCE AND SELF-RELIANCE IN DEVELOPMENT. CHEYSSON CONCLUDED THAT HIS DISCUSSION WITH THE P.M. WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF HIS TOUR IN THE AREA WHICH HAD SO FAR INCLUDED GUADELOUPE, MARTINIQUE, FRENCH GUIANA AND SURINAM. HE LEFT GUYANA ON SEPTEMBER 11 FOR TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AND JAMAICA.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1282042
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF EEC COMMISSIONER FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION
TAGS: EAID, ETRD, PORG, GY, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dcd9e446-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009